

NEW ZEALAND UNIVERSITY LIBRARY STATISTICS 2007

Scope

Statistics for all New Zealand universities are included in this publication.

Names of the universities and their abbreviations are:

Auckland	University of Auckland
AUT	Auckland University of Technology
Canterbury	University of Canterbury
Lincoln	Lincoln University
Massey	Massey University
Otago	University of Otago
Victoria	Victoria University of Wellington
Waikato	University of Waikato

The libraries of the University of Otago's Christchurch and Wellington Schools of Medicine and Health Sciences are not included.

These statistics relate to the period 1 January to 31 December 2007. Student and staff numbers are from the Ministry of Education (MoE) return. The figures for library staff represent levels for 2007.

CP is used where libraries cannot provide any data.

New Zealand University Library Statistics are accessible from the CONZUL website (<http://www.nzvcc.ac.nz/aboutus/sc/conzul/statistics>).

The scope and arrangement of the statistics is based on that used by CAUL, the Council of Australian University Librarians, for the Australian and New Zealand university library statistics published in *Australian Academic and Research Libraries*, and on the CAUL website (<http://www.caul.edu.au/stats/>), with some additional figures as requested by New Zealand university libraries. As a result of recommendations from a NZ Universities statistics working group in 2008, some columns which provided some further detail have been removed in order to more closely align the NZ statistics with the Australasian figures in CAUL.

Columns 8, 49, and 50 now provide an overall figure which includes the information which was in 8a & 8b, 49a, b, & c, and 50 a & b respectively. Other columns (51c,d,e,f,& h) have been relocated to Table 2, and some trend figures were removed from Table 1. A new column showing the average for all institutions has been added to Table 2. New figures providing the number of e-books in the collection and the number added in the past year have been added to the section on information resources (cols 29a & b); this information has been provided in the past by Waikato and Victoria as part of their monograph figures, but all libraries are now providing this information separately. (CAUL statistics are also providing this information for the first time for 2007). There has also been some reordering (but not renumbering) of columns in the section on Institutional Population.

In 2007 the University of Otago merged with the Dunedin College of Education. As a result their collection figures are affected by the additional resources reported, as well as library staffing, student and staff populations and services

such as loans. The 2006 merger between the University of Canterbury and the Christchurch College of Education is now fully reflected in the relevant columns for Canterbury (the Christchurch College of Education figures were not included in last year's publication).

Trends in University Library Key Statistics and Ratios

Table 1, Trends in Overall University Library Key Statistics and Ratios, is an attempt to show the overall picture of university library services and collections for the last five years.

Overall student and staff numbers increased slightly, but have still not matched the numbers in 2005. Seat numbers remain the same on average.

The total number of loans have decreased despite the additional numbers from the Otago College of Education merger. Five institutions recorded a decline in the number of loans. Reserve collection loans continued to drop for most libraries corresponding to the increasing availability of e-reserve collections; this is also reflected in the significant drop of reserve loans as a percentage of total loans.

Interloan traffic continued to decrease overall; all libraries reported decreases in items supplied but two libraries had increases in items received. Libraries are now receiving just over half the numbers of interloan items that were received in 2002. The overall decline is almost certainly linked to increasing access to e-resources in each institution.

Average numbers attending information literacy and instruction courses remained steady.

Metrics for use of electronic services should be treated with caution. Not every library provides returns for these columns and figures may not be comparative between institutions. CAUL does not collect statistics in this area.

With the increasing use of electronic resources, the number of physical volumes or items in a collection is becoming less useful as an indicator of its value. The inclusion for the first time of the numbers of e-book titles held gives a better indication of the size of the collections (note that these are additional to any figures provided for the number of titles of physical monographs held).

Collection expenditure per FTE has increased steadily in the past few years, and the percentage of that allocated to electronic resources has climbed to well over 50% of the total expenditure. The combined university libraries' collections are a significant asset to the nation; the total budget for library materials increased to just over \$59 million in 2007, with over \$33.4 million devoted to e-resources. Five universities recorded an increase in collection expenditure per FTE.

Total library staff numbers increased in 2007, with amalgamation with the College of Education at Otago a factor. In general though, library staff per FTE user population has remained fairly static over the last 5 years.

Total library expenditure per FTE continues to increase. When compared with the collection expenditure trends per FTE, most libraries are spending almost the same on staffing and operational costs per FTE, although the percentage differences are small. Library expenditure as a percentage of total NZ university

income has dropped; although for three individual universities their expenditure has increased when compared to their university income.

Comparisons with NZ and Australian university libraries is possible through the Council of Australian University Librarians' interactive website at <http://www.caul.edu.au/stats/> and with the US Association of Research Libraries interactive website at <http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/arl/index.html>

Table 2, University Library Key Performance Indicators 2007, includes some key ratios on a per EFTS (students only) and per FTE (staff plus students) basis, enabling comparisons to be made between universities.

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